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UFOhio SYMPOSIUM PAPERS

Papers which were presented at the APRO UFOhio Symposium in June, 1981 are available from APRO Headquarters based on the following price schedule. Prices reflect copying costs at \$.10 per page plus postage. Please order by number, title and author.

1. "Old Magic and New"-Robert F. Creegan, Ph.D. \$2.25
2. "The Roswell Investigation, Update and Conclusions"-William L. Moore \$3.50
3. "The Interrupted Journey Continued"-Betty Hill \$2.25
4. "UFO Activity and Human Consciousness"-R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D. \$2.75
5. "The Night Surgeons"-Peter A. Jordan \$3.00
6. "E.T.H.-Completing The Jigsaw"-L.J. Lorenzen \$2.00
7. "UFO-The Cosmic Watergate"-Stanton T. Friedman \$2.75
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SPECIAL NOTICE

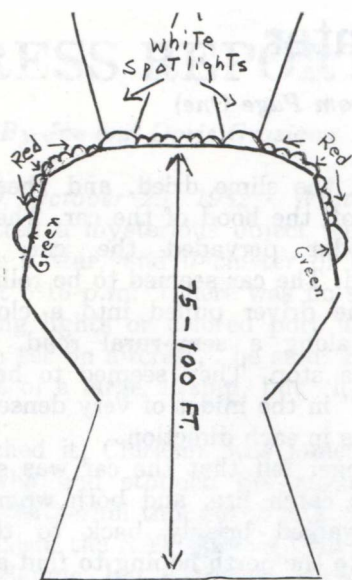
Compass Needle Effect Reports By Date

YR/MO/DY	YR/MO/DY	YR/MO/DY	YR/MO/DY
45/08/28 Pacific	63/11/12 Atlantic	68/06/15 Argentina	74/08/04 Australia
47/06/24 US	66/07/01 UK	68/07/07 US	74/10/15 US
53/06/20 US	66/11/13 France	68/09/08 UK	74/11/24 US
54/02/23 UK	67/05/20 Canada	71/08/22 UK	74/11/28 US
54/09/06 Brazil	61/11/06 UK	71/11/23 US	74/12/ Atlantic
55/ / Atlantic	68/ / US	72/09/ US	76/07/10 UK
55/12/27 Australia	68/01/15 US	73/02/02 NZ	77/02/17 UK
57/12/ Atlantic	68/01/24 US	73/03/11 US	77/04/10
57/12/15 US	68/03/02 Australia	73/04/10 US	77/10/18 UK
59/08/13 US	68/03/04 US	73/10/18 US	78/01/19 US
63/08/24 Austria	68/03/24 US	73/12/02 France	78/04/17 Atlantic
63/08/26 France	68/04/02 US	74/ / Canada	78/11/09 Italy

I will pay \$5.00 for a xerographic copy of each published UFO sighting report not on the above list which mentions a magnetic compass needle or compass-type detector being affected. Jan Eric Herr, 6250 Stanley Avenue, San Diego, Calif. 92115, U. S. A.

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E-M EFFECTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA



S. C. object - see column two

CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITHOUT A UFO?

By Michael D. Swords, PhD.

(Dr. Swords is Associate Professor of Natural Science at Western Michigan University at Kalamazoo).

The following report is of a case of possible interest to APRO members due to its obvious similarities with some of the electromagnetic effects encounter cases. Though no discs or occupants appear in the experience, the phenomena which do occur are often familiar to UFO investigators.

Briefly, the details of the case were as follows: two women in their twenties were driving home from a visit with friends at 3 am Thursday morning, June 10, 1982. They had been noticing odd electrical effects for some time (TV reception, radio reception, static electricity in hair.) The weather was very humid with heavy clouds in the sky as they drove south on M-66 toward Sturgis, Michigan. Fog closed in and a mild rain began. The rain began to appear brown and slimy and adhered to the windshield. Almost suddenly the

(See ENCOUNTER - Page Two)

Our thanks to Field Investigator Richard Coffman for the interesting details of the following case.

Jerry and Robin (Mr. and Mrs.) Messer of Simpsonville, South Carolina, were on their way home by car from Spartanburg on the 13th of February when they had an unusual experience.

The couple were driving on Highway 14, which is a country road with little traffic. The temperature was 45 degrees F., and because of the cold they were using the car heater. At approximately 10:30 p.m. Mrs. Messer saw a light in the north-northeast which she couldn't identify and tried to pass it off in her mind but kept watching it. It appeared to stay in the same position. Shortly after Robin started watching it, Jerry spotted it also. As they drew closer to the object they began to note a definite shape and the outer lights ringing it. By that time they could discern that it was positioned over an empty field.

As the car drew parallel to the object Mr. Messer slowed it to about 3 miles per hour, then to an almost complete stop. At that time they could make out a series of red lights outlining the front portion of the arrow-shaped object, with one green light positioned at each side.

As they brought the car almost to a stop, the object turned in their direction (the rounded end "facing" them) and two spotlight-type lights came beaming down to the ground with little white lights surrounding them. The "spotlights" appeared as rays of some sort but did not light up any of the surrounding area. At that time the car radio, which had been playing, suddenly quit. They did not notice if the heater had quit also.

The object made no noise that they could discern, and at that juncture another car appeared behind them, coming around a curve. They do not know if the occupant(s) of the car saw the object, but it approached them at a much greater speed than is normal for that road. (The Messer's car was doing 55 mph at the time they slowed to watch the object).

At the same time that the second car was speeding toward them, Mr. Messer was gaining speed also. The object had proceeded upward behind their car at an angle, getting closer and closer to them.

Jerry and Robin said they were not far from a four-way intersection where a convenience store was located on their left (to the east). The area is well lighted and as they drove into the lighted area the object sped upward over some nearby trees and went

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South Carolina

(Continued from Page One)

out of sight in the south-southwest.

The car radio began to play again, and they proceeded on down Highway 14 to Robin's parents' home.

Robin and Jerry estimated that they watched the object for 10 minutes, and upon arriving at their destination, they began trying to report the incident, and were not successful until the next day when they contacted Robert Gribble of Phenomena Research in Seattle, Washington, who passed the case on to APRO.

Further details: The Messers were driving a 1983 Mazda GLCL, 4-door luxury sedan. Both witnesses stressed the fact that when they slowed down to observe the object, they noted that the area was totally silent - no bird or cricket or normal night sounds. They noted no portholes or windows on the object. The only disagreement between the two witnesses was that Robin was not certain whether or not the spotlights shed light on the ground, but Jerry was certain that they did.

There are no other known witnesses, and they have no idea who the driver or occupants of the second car were.

Encounter

(Continued from Page One)

rain stopped, the slime dried, and "heat vapors" of steam rolled off the hood of the car. The engine died. A rotten odor pervaded the car. The brakes malfunctioned. The car seemed to be rolling free down the road. The driver pulled into a closed market's parking lot along a semi-rural road, and the car slammed to a stop. They seemed to have entered a "clear region" in the midst of very dense fog, perhaps 1 to 200 yards in each direction.

The passenger felt that the car was so hot that it was about to catch fire, and both women scrambled out. They walked briskly back to the road and backtracked to the north hoping to find a phone. Fifty yards along they were surrounded by myriads of "lightning" flashes zipping everywhere all about them. Looking back toward their car, the sky filled (horizon-to-zenith) with a pink-orange fluorescent glow with streams of bright light running from the zenith toward the reddish horizon. The observers were near hysteria at this point, but psychologically supported each other.

Along the highway weeds seemed to stand straight up and glow as they ran back to the car. The low-level "lightnings" continued. Inside the car for only seconds, they abandoned it again because of its mysterious heat. Back to the road and south toward some houses they went. One hundred yards ahead little two-foot tall dancing lights in extreme deep red moved along the road. Lightnings continued nearly everywhere. Again almost suddenly, they were entirely soaked with water. A "second" later, no more water in the air. Running to a house, they pounded in some panic on the door. A young woman answered, pointed to a phone, would not go near them, and would not look outside. In the 15 minutes that it took a friend to drive to pick them up, the "event" subsided gradually. No other witnesses to the Sturgis Atmospheric Light Show seemed present.

The Aftermath: The two observers reacted in part similarly and in part differently to the experience. Both were naturally interested, even fixated, by the experience. Both had difficulty sleeping for a while, but this disappeared quickly. One woman "adjusted" to the event, and became merely intrigued with what it

might have been, but the other remained fixated for months, making all sorts of elaborate "correlations" and speculations about what had happened to her (none involving UFOs, however).

The two witnesses contacted the director of the Kalamazoo, Michigan Planetarium a few days following their "event." The director contacted the author at Western Michigan University, and we drove south to see the observers and the site. The two women, family members, and friends all seemed concerned and genuine. At the site, one witness calmly relived the experience in detail, but the other broke down hysterically. There was nothing obviously unusual about the surroundings, except that they are on a line of fresh water lakes extending Northeast to Southwest. There is also a large power plant in this same line, the same direction as the "Great Aurora" that they saw. The stories were detailed, consistent, and in most instances, calmly rational. The family of the more affected witness seemed especially concerned over a dramatic change in their daughter's interests ("fixations") and continued emotional involvement. Both witnesses complained of static electricity and "ratting" of their hair and dryness of skin for a while. One witness seemed "de-energized" muscularly by the

Conclusions: As much as one can say about any of such "anecdotal" cases, the phenomena seem genuine and the descriptions accurate. Some components of the experience could have something to do with a large solar glare speculated to produce Michigan auroras the previous night. Other components could be involved with the fault line associated with the lakes in the region. The percipients both seem to have had much heightened sense perceptions during the event. Whether this was due to electromagnetics, adrenalin, both, or "factor-X", who knows? A small sample of the mysterious brown goo-rain-stuff was inspected and found to be largely simple plant material of the type one might find associated in ponds. *Exactly* what the substance was is not known. Both "investigators" felt that the powerful emotional fixation of the one witness was the most dramatic aspect of the case. Indeed, the witness, despite a solid intelligence and an admirable store of native curiosity about almost all subjects, seemed on the verge of talking herself into believing almost anything as she eclectically synthesized all sorts of subsequent events into strange theories. For her, every "odd" thing had a new intense "significance." Considering the amazing quality of her experience, the author will certainly not fault her for her reaction. Still, this case seems to point out a great danger in such cases for later additions, absolutely believed true, to intense encounter experiences. As we all already realize, this means that the sooner the investigator gets to the case, the better. It also means that we shouldn't discount a case as a hoax, if we find that

the witness has added something to be bogus to it later.



Irene Granchi

APRO'S BRAZILIAN REPRESENTATIVE

Brazil has been a virtual hotbed of UFO activity since the incursion of the phenomenon into that country in 1954. One of the few Brazilians who became deeply involved in the investigation of UFOs is Mrs. Irene Granchi, who serves as APRO'S Representative for Brazil.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen first met Irene in July, 1967 when they visited Rio de Janeiro as part of their six-country jaunt through South America. In November, 1971, she was a house guest of the Lorenzens when she attended the APRO UFO Symposium at the University of Arizona, as a representative of the Brazilian Air Force.

Mrs. Granchi is typical of those "old-timers" who have been deeply immersed in the study of UFOs for a good share of the years that the subject has been popular. She is proficient in English, Portuguese, Spanish, French, Italian, and German and has been invaluable not only as an investigator but a translator as well.

Mrs. Granchi is a professor of languages at the Cultura Inglesia in Rio de Janeiro so she carries a very heavy double load. We take this opportunity to thank and salute our Brazilian Representative and friend.

The Bulletin has published many of her investigations in the past and we fully expect many important contributions from her in the future.

ASTRONOMICAL DATA

By Lee Emery

(Mr. Emery is a student at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology).

The purpose of this column is to give observers a general idea of the location of significant stars and planets in the night sky. It is applicable in most areas of the U.S., Canada, Europe, Central Asia and Japan. All times given are approximate and may vary up to 30 minutes either way, depending on the observer's location in relation to his local time meridian. In addition, add one hour for the beginning of the month, and subtract one hour for the end of the month.

Note: All times given are *standard time*. Add one hour for daylight savings time.

JUNE 1983

PROMINENT PLANETS: *Venus*, a dominant feature in the western sky at sunset, sets about 9:30 p.m.

Jupiter can be seen just above the SE horizon after sunset. It never rises very high in the sky, but moves across the southern sky towards the west until it sets just after 3 a.m.

Saturn is found about 45° above the south at sunset. By 11 p.m., it is seen 30° above the west, then sets in the west about 1 a.m.

BRIGHTEST STARS: At 9 p.m.: *Vega* is found 50° above the east. *Capella* is extremely low on the northern horizon. *Arcturus* is about 80° above the south (almost overhead). *Antares* can be seen 25° above the south.

At 11 p.m.: *Vega* is 80° above the east (almost overhead).

Arcturus is about 60° above the west. *Antares* is 20° above the south.

At 1 a.m.: *Vega* is now directly overhead. *Arcturus* is 25° above the west. *Antares* is low in the SSW sky.

At 3 a.m.: *Vega* is 70° above the west. *Arcturus* is very low on the western horizon. *Antares* is very low in the WSW. *Capella* is very low in the NNE.

METEOR SHOWERS: There are several minor showers this month, but nothing too significant. However, there is a total eclipse of the sun on the 11th visible only south of the equator near Indonesia. Also, there is a partial lunar eclipse on the 25th.

MOON PHASES: Last quarter - June 3
New moon - June 11
First quarter - June 17
Full moon - June 25

JULY 1983

PROMINENT PLANETS: *Venus* is located 25°-30° above the west after sunset, and sets about 9:30 p.m.

Jupiter can be seen about 30° above the south at sunset. It moves across the southern sky towards the

west until it sets about 1:30 a.m.

Saturn is 40° above the SW at sunset. It sets about 11:30 p.m. in the west.

BRIGHTEST STARS: Star positions remain basically unchanged this month except times are one hour earlier in the first part of the month, and two hours earlier towards the end of the month.

METEOR SHOWERS: The Delta Aquarids peak on July 28, and the Capricornids peak on July 30, but neither is expected to be too spectacular.

MOON PHASES: Last quarter - July 3
New moon - July 10
First quarter - July 17
Full moon - July 24

AUGUST 1983

PROMINENT PLANETS: *Venus* sets in the west just after sunset, and may not be visible.

Jupiter is found 30° above the south after sunset and sets about 11:30 p.m. in the WSW.

Saturn is about 30° above the WSW after sunset and sets about 9:15 p.m.

BRIGHTEST STARS: At 9 p.m.: *Vega* is directly overhead. *Arcturus* is 25° above the west. *Antares* is low in the SSW.

At 11 p.m.: *Vega* is 70° above the west. *Arcturus* is low in the west. *Antares* is very low in the WSW. *Capella* is very low in the NNE.

At 1 a.m.: *Vega* is 45° above the west. *Capella* is 30° above the NE. *Aldebaran* has just risen above the eastern horizon.

At 3 a.m.: *Vega* is 30° above the WNW. *Capella* is 50° above the ENE. *Aldebaran* is now 35° above the east. The *Orion Constellation* has just risen above the eastern horizon.

METEOR SHOWERS: The Perseids peak on August 13, and viewing should be good in Europe, Asia and America.

MOON PHASES: Last quarter - August 2
New moon - August 8
First quarter - August 15
Full moon - August 23
Last quarter - August 31

THE "EARTH STRESS" THEORY

On "Predicting UFO Events and Experiences" by Michael A. Persinger, PhD: Comments by Larry K. Lepley, PhD.

(Dr. Lepley received his B.S. in 1959 from the Colorado School of Mines, his M.S. in Oceanography in 1964 from Texas A & M, and his PhD in Geophysics from the University of Hawaii in 1969. Dr.

Lepley is currently conducting his private consulting practice in Tucson, Arizona.)

In his MUFON Symposium Proceedings presentation, (Persinger, 1982) Persinger theorizes that "electromagnetic-like" earthquake precursors cause luminosities that are reported as UFOs or cause hallucinations of close encounter UFO experiences. As I will point out, Persinger's theory, richly cloaked in jargon, is founded on shaky geophysical evidence.

There is evidence of strong electrical fields before and during strong earthquakes. Derr (1973) reported earthquake lightning and Rititake (1981) reported luminous mists called "chiki" that have preceded earthquakes in Japan. No accompanying hallucinogenic effects were reported in either case.

Persinger's MUFON paper is based on his book, "Space-Time Transients and Unusual Events" (Persinger and Lafreniere, 1977), which for brevity I will refer to as P & L. In the MUFON paper, Persinger also refers to measures of crustal strain such as "alterations in rock emission spectrum recorded by satellite reconnaissance" cited in Goetz and Rowan (1981). In actuality, the Goetz and Rowan paper discusses spectra of rock altered by past exposure to ore-bearing fluids.

In the P & L book, Fig. 59 shows the location of earthquake intensities, and Fig. 18 shows the location of UFO sightings or encounters. Related maps published elsewhere include the map cited by Persinger that shows the state of earth stress in the United States (Zoback and Zoback, 1981) and a map of UFO Close Encounters Published by US/UFO, Inc. As I compared these sets of maps, I found no correlation between UFO sightings or encounters and earthquake or earth stress zones. Instead, I saw excellent correlation between UFO sighting locations and population density in the United States. The most notable exception is the high UFO activity at the Iowa-Missouri-Illinois tricorners shown by P & L's Figure 18. This is not an area of high population density, nor is it an area of earth stress or earthquakes. The P & L book admits that Persinger's "most robust" data pattern is confused by population factors.

Persinger states that a first step in analysis of the movement and position of the UFO event is to translate the local landscape into the language of electromagnetics. I agree. However, his P & L book demonstrates ignorance of both the language and physics of electromagnetics. For example, their assumption that magnetic storms would cause an increase of electrical field over a conductor is wrong. Conductors "bleed off" electrical and electromagnetic fields, just as lightning rods prevent lightning strokes and steel in overpasses intercept radio signals to automobiles passing underneath.

I cannot argue against the possibility of neurologic

effects of static electrical or very low frequency (around ten cycles per second) electromagnetic fields. However, Persinger's correlation between UFO events and zones of earth stress is not valid, and Persinger is not qualified to interpret the earth's "electromagnetic-like" field and its causes.

Why should a tenured professor bother to risk his professional credibility by proclaiming to the mass media a wildly premature hypothesis based on poor evidence from a field outside his competence (solid earth geophysics)? My only guess is that Persinger, like many detractors, is terrified of the possibility that some of the UFO phenomena might possibly be real. He then is compelled to discredit serious researchers and their evidence.

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MUTILATIONS RETURN TO WYOMING

The cattle mutilation story, quiet in the Wyoming area for two years, may have emerged again with the slaying of a 9-year-old cow. Reluctant to give much information because of negative experiences of ranchers reporting such killings, a rancher said he found the cow with one eyeball gone, half an udder, rectum and vagina removed with clean, surgical cuts which left little blood in the surrounding area. There were no signs of a struggle and not one part of the rest of the flesh had been touched.

As yet, no predators have approached the dead cow, and coyotes have not devoured the remains. Some theories have been advanced that coyotes have refrained from eating the remains because of the smell of human handling. But that theory does not explain why

a dead rabbit or other animals commonly thrown out of a pickup are immediately eaten by a hungry coyote.

The rancher said there were two clean cuts on the cow, one below and one above the eye, and clean cuts with very little hair disturbance and little blood around the removed organs. The cuts looked like a professional surgical job.

The cow was found about 11 a.m. by ranch crews checking cattle, and was about five miles from habitation or any dogs. A 2-inch snow covered any signs of tracks.

MICROCOMPUTERS AND UFO INVESTIGATORS

*A series of two articles by Sally Sheridan, M. Ed.,
School Media Specialist and APRO Field Investigator.*

PART ONE

As a school media specialist I am involved in developing our school district's computer education planning and policies. I am currently involved in purchasing several microcomputers for schools and one for personal use at home. It is only natural that I would want to combine my interest in UFOs with my growing interest in microcomputers. But how could a UFO field investigator use a personal computer in his or her investigations?

To begin with, there are some interesting commercial software programs on astronomy which would help an investigator determine whether or not a sighting report could be the result of misperception of stars or planets. Apple has a program called Tell Star (48K, disk for \$39.95) and Radio Shack has one called Astronomy Package I (32K, disk for \$24.95). The gist of both is that you enter your location and the sky will be drawn for any given date and time of day.

One of the subtle advantages of these programs is that you can quickly investigate not only current, local sightings but also those time-consuming reports we get which are distant in time and place. So you live in Alaska and the sighting you are investigating was in Florida on Christmas Eve of 1970. By simply adjusting the longitude and latitude (consult the Old Farmer's Almanac) you can still "check it out!"

We will now discuss how UFO investigators can use their personal microcomputers to establish files for their cases. Ideally, these personal case files will be set up following a standardized and approved format so that information can easily be shared with head-

quarters and possibly with other field investigators. I will discuss formatting later.

It is important to understand that what I am suggesting is a catalogued list containing only the most pertinent facts, phrased in the briefest terms, abbreviations and codes, and including keywords for future retrieval. For example, we would want to list such vital facts about a case as: name(s) of witness(es), type of sighting, current status: solved/unsolved, location, date, and time of day, duration of sighting, number of witnesses, number of objects, colors, motions, shape/appearance, apparent size and weather conditions. Then we would want a notes or keywords section containing any words by which we might want to retrieve this case in the future, perhaps for the purpose of listing all such cases. Such words as time loss, hypnosis, animal mutilation, angel's hair, and others would be very important to include. Remember though, we only want the bare bones of the case, and *not* the entire case file, including transcripts, to be stored by the microcomputer.

If you are an investigator interested in cataloging your own UFO files in a microcomputer, you will need a data base management filing system. Virtually all major computer brands have such a data base management system for their computer users. Apple computers use P.F.S.; Radio Shack calls theirs Profile; IBM computers use VisiFile. The cost of these vary from \$125 on up. Of course, one disc could probably last most of us many years.

What these programs have in common is that the user can set up the files using "fields" (subject headings) of his or her own choosing. This is where we need a standardized format. After designing the file form we now fill in the information germane to each case. We can then ask the computer to search the files for *any* word or words and list all the cases with such words in their entries. For example, you can search for all your cases involving animals or E/M effect or blue lights or any other characteristics. You can even ask for combinations of characteristics. You might want to search for all your cases involving both blue lights and E/M effects!

Obviously care must be taken to enter all words in each case which you might want to search for in the future. But don't worry. Your computer is willing to accept new information if you should suddenly remember some important keyword you left out.

Now let's return to the problem of formatting. It will be of the utmost value for us to establish and follow a standardized format so that our information can be easily exchanged and combined with the data collected from other investigator's so that statistical analysis will be possible. And in fact, such a format and a list of suggested keywords has been developed by this writer and, we hope, will either be published at a later date or soon will be available upon request.

I believe the adoption of uniform personal filing systems would be an important and positive step in organizing the information we are gathering for future comparison and analysis.

(continued next issue)

PRESS REPORTS

By Joe and Doris Graziano

ENGLAND, October 29, 1982 - Whitby - Charles Clarkson spotted a mysterious object with a light at the front, like a star, and a cluster of lights at the back, at about 6:15 p.m. "There was no sound at all - and no flashing lights or colored port and starboard lights like you see on aircraft," he said. He thought it was the shape of a large airship, but "it was too big for an aircraft."

As he watched it, Clarkson was joined by Sydney Weatherhill who had stopped his motorcycle for a better view. Weatherhill thought it might have been a delta wing Vulcan, the RAF bomber which looks like a large flying triangle, but heard no sound of engines. The men watched for approximately two minutes before the object passed out of sight.

Radar technician Peter Glover also saw the object as he left his home at about 6:20 p.m. "At first I could see three lights at the front, in a triangle, and then when it was overhead I could see a cluster of lights at the back," he said. Like the other witnesses, Glover heard no sound of engines.

November (?) , 1982 - Skegness - Bernard O'Reilly, with more than 20 years experience as a trained observer of shipping and aircraft, said he could not explain a "triangular lit up object" which flew and hovered like a helicopter. He watched the object hover soundlessly for several minutes before it traveled across the wash in the direction of Hunstanton.

Several other people, including a police constable, saw the object as it hovered over Ingoldmells, moved over Skegness, hovered again and then disappeared over the sea towards the Norfolk coast. The description of the object was similar to that of O'Reilly. Checks with the RAF showed that no aircraft were in the area at the time and nothing was seen on radar screens.

CONNECTICUT, October 20, 1982 - Enfield - Paul Bouchner was driving from his home to a meeting in Enfield on a "nice clear, crisp night" when he encountered a "monstrosity of a disc" hovering a "couple hundred feet" directly over his car. The circular object was rimmed with approximately 30 basketball-sized lights which cast bright white light

over the area. He described the object's color as "a watery gray, like sharkskin."

Boucher said he saw heat waves rise from the hood of his car but didn't feel hot himself. He heard a low-pitched, grinding whirl like the sound of a motor that won't turn over. A moment later, the lights went out and the whirring stopped. The object then turned a flaming red, shot up in an arc through the sky and disappeared.

"I was bawling. I was really shaken. My digital clock said 7:02 p.m.," Boucher said, adding that the drive to his club meeting normally takes only 51 minutes. He said he doesn't know if he blacked out during the incident.

TEXAS, November 12, 1982 - Victoria - A half-dozen people claimed they saw a dark, oval to saucer shaped object to the west of Victoria around 6 p.m. The object moved along a southerly course about 25° above the horizon and was visible for several minutes.

Symantha Hoffman said the object appeared dark brown against a light but greying sky shortly after sundown. She estimated the object to be 10,000 to 20,000 feet in the sky. She and two friends, Cynthia Carroll and Loretta Roy, watched the object from a food market parking lot for four to five minutes until it disappeared. Store owner Cruz Ortis and his son Mike also saw the object. None of the witnesses detected any sound or lights from the object.

The National Weather Service at Victoria Regional Airport launched a weather balloon at 5 p.m. and said it tracked slightly south of the city for a few minutes and then shifted east. Weather bureau personnel said they doubted if the object seen was their balloon.

ILLINOIS, November 27, 1982 - Palantine - Police Commander Michael McDonald and officers Dennis Somsel and Ron Roszak each spotted a strange light in the area of Northwest Hwy. and Smith St. just before 5 a.m. After McDonald called in the sighting, Somsel and Roszak independently saw the light.

"I saw an intense white and red light. . . pretty good size. It was bright enough to light up the ground," McDonald said. It made no noise and no shape could be distinguished by the police officers because of its brightness. They watched the light for about 9 minutes, then it disappeared behind Busse Woods. Palantine police called O'Hare Airport, but no aircraft was reported in the area.

PENNSYLVANIA - December 2, 1982 - Lake Ariel - Charlie Termini, Chad Saprana and Dean Donnoni, who range in age from 10 to 12, said an object appeared in the sky, hovered over them briefly and flew away at about 5 p.m. The sighting was confirmed by two of the boys' mothers who said that by the time they saw the object it was quite a distance away.

Charlie described the object as being round, with

glowing white lights and intermittently spaced blue lights. Both Chad and Dean said it was triangular in shape with one bright blue light in each corner. Mr. and Mrs. Donnoni said they were enroute to their home about 45 minutes after the sighting and saw a "tear-shaped object which appeared as though it was falling to the ground."

WASHINGTON - December 11, 1982 - Chumstick - Scott and Nadine West were riding snowmobiles with Brad Burgess, at about 5:30 p.m., when they rounded a sharp turn and spotted a huge object over Chumstick. It was described as an inverted saucer, outlined in clear white lights, rounded on the top and flat at the bottom. They first guessed its size at about 200 feet long and 50 feet high, but revised that the next day, when they had a chance to better gauge placement and distances in daylight, to about twice that size.

Nadine said the big "ship" was accompanied by two smaller ones, marked by red lights, which moved about near the large object, which always appeared to be slightly tilted. A plane flew over the area while they were watching and this helped convince them the object was not an airplane. They watched the object for about 40 minutes and heard no sound other than the sound of other snow machines in the area.

NEBRASKA - December 11, 1982 - Nebraska City - Joe and Tanni Murnan saw two purplish-pink objects hovering near a neighbor's home late in the evening. The round, glowing objects made no noise and had no flashing lights. "One, about half the size of a VW (Beetle) came down and the other went south. It looked like it sat down in our neighbor's pasture and then looked like it bounced across the highway," said Mrs. Murnan. She then called Acting Otoe County Sheriff Rich Tilson and the neighbors, Ted and Phyllis Lyons.

Mrs. Lyons said she saw the object as it flew over the highway, but didn't have an opportunity for a close look. Tilson said he and Deputy Tom Frudiker arrived to find Murnan and some neighbors still staring intently at the clear sky. Then, as they watched, a bright flash lit up the sky and spread out in every direction.

NEW MEXICO - December 20-21, 1982 - Las Cruces - The Dona Ana County Sheriff's Department was deluged with calls from persons inquiring about strange lights in the sky. A spokesman said the calls came from as far away as Dona Ana, nine miles north of the city, and Vado, about sixteen miles south. Several officers and a dispatcher also reported having seen the lights.

An army spokesman at Ft. Bliss confirmed that there were night training maneuvers at Dona Ana Range both nights, and said certain atmospheric

conditions could cause visible phenomena from the light of aerial flares bounced off low clouds. There were also training exercises at White Sands Space Harbor on both nights, but a spokesman said all the lighting at the shuttle landing strip were stationary ground lights, except for two T-38 NASA jets used in landing simulations. But additional reports of strange lights in the sky from as far away as Roswell and Pecos, Texas, could not be attributed to either flares from Dona Ana Range or landing strip lights at White Sands.

NEW MEXICO - January 12, 1983 - Gallup (AP) - Amid speculation that a meteor might have fallen, authorities were trying to determine what sparked a fire on a high plateau east of the city. McKinley County Undersheriff Jack Graham thinks the fire and reports of explosion-like noises may have come from dynamite explosions, but said that officers would conduct a search for a possible meteorite. He said that when officers were trying to get to the fire that night, "we saw a falling star or meteorite fall and it burned longer than it should." "Some of the residents up there reported being hit with gas, which dried their lips and made them nauseous," he added.

McKinley County Sheriff Bennie Padilla said the fire was "definitely caused" by a meteorite or some foreign object, but not a plane crash. State Police Lt. John Toney told a news conference that he saw a smoldering burned area about 75 feet across. "I saw no crater, and the only thing I saw was just some burned brush," he said. He added that there was "no sign of any impact" and said investigators dug down a couple of inches into the soil, which was hot underneath but fairly cool on top. A geiger counter check of the burned area revealed no sign of abnormal radiation counts.

The blaze was reported after the Sheriff's Office and state city police in the Gallup and Farmington areas were deluged with calls from residents reporting at least two explosion-like noises.

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